

1-17-02 72

output providing a first type of auditory feedback when the user is navigating at a first speed and a second type of auditory feedback when the user is navigating at a second different speed;

- a validating input to enable the user to select the current option based on the feedback.

15. (AMENDED) A method of enabling a user to interact with an information processing device, the method comprising:

- enabling the user to navigate among a set of options;
- providing respective auditory feedback information to the user about a respective selectable one of the options while the user is navigating and providing a first type of auditory feedback information when the user is navigating at a first speed and providing a second type of auditory feedback information when the user is navigating at a second different speed; and
- enabling the user to validate a current one of the options based on the feedback for accessing the selectable one of the options.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 15 have been amended to better define the invention and to further advance prosecution. The two independent claims have been amended to include the claim limitation of the feedback output providing two types of auditory feedback for two different navigating speeds. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 1-22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Macor et al. (US 5,901,222 (Applicants assumed that the Examiner was referring to US 5,901,222 as the Macor patent and not US 5,774,540 as mentioned in the Office Action)) and Kowalski (US 5,095,503).

The invention relates to an information processing device comprising a user-interface for enabling a user to interact with the device. The user interface comprises a navigating input for enabling the user to navigate in a set of options. The user interface also comprises a feedback output to provide respective auditory feedback information to the user about a respective selectable one of the options while the user is navigating. The feedback output also provides a first type of auditory feedback when the user is navigating at a first speed. The feedback output also provides a second type of auditory feedback when the user navigates at a second different speed. The information processing system further comprises a validating input to enable the user to select the current option based on the feedback.

Macor

Macor discloses a portable telecommunication device comprising a base member having an inner surface, an outer surface and two ends. A display is mounted on the inner surface of the base member for displaying information. The base member further supports a manipulated member, which is functionally connected to the display so that the displayed information changes when the manipulatable member is manipulated. The manipulated member and the display are located between the speaker and the microphone.

Kowalski

Kowalski discloses a cellular telephone controller that provides synthesized voice feedback for directory number confirmation, call status and cellular telephone feature, option and service selection (abstract). The controller comprises a phone switch, a select switch, a scroll-up switch and a scroll-down switch.

Activation of one of the scroll switches steps a location counter through locations zero and ten of the telephone number directory in the cellular telephone and also voices the location number or name (col.2, 1.7-14). Activation of the select switch reads out the telephone number from the memory location indicated by the location counter and also voices the digits or name for the read-out telephone number (col.2, 1.14-18).

Activation of the phone switch originates a cellular telephone call to the read-out telephone number (col.2, 1.18-20).

As mentioned by the Examiner in the arguments of the rejection of Claim 5, Kowalski is silent on any correlation between the speed at which a user can scroll and the ability of the device to verbalize output at the same speed. Neither Macor nor Kowalski suggests nor mentions, the speed at which the user scrolls and the type of auditory feedback the device produces for a given speed.

Thus, neither Macor nor Kowalski teaches the claim limitation of the feedback output providing two types of auditory feedback for two different navigating speeds. Even if the teachings of both documents were to be combined, the result would still not lead to a device as presently claimed.

Applicants do not believe that it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art at the time of the invention to have the feedback output producing two different auditory feedback for two different speeds (e.g. from spoken names to click). For example, increasing the scrolling speed may result in the device malfunctioning. Documentation is respectfully requested from the Examiner to support the Examiner's assumption. Neither Macor nor Kowalski mentions the scrolling speed itself or any issue related to the scrolling speed. Thus, neither Macor nor Kowalski suggests to a person skilled in the art to modify their respective or combined teachings. Thus, the Examiner has not met the burden of establishing a prima facie case of obviousness.

As a result, the invention as claimed clearly distinguishes from Macor and Kowalski taken alone or in combination.

It is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1 and 15 are patentable over Macor and Kowalski. It is also respectfully submitted that dependent Claims 2-4, 6-14 and 16-22 are patentable over Macor and Kowalski at least based on their dependencies.

Applicants respectfully submit that they have answered all issues raised by the Examiner and that the application is accordingly in condition for allowance. Such allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees other than the issue fee to deposit account 14-1270.

Please credit any overpayments to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 17, 2002

By 

Gwenaelle Le Pennec

Limited Recognition under 37 C.F.R 10.9(b)
(408) 617-4837

APPENDIX A

Version with Markings
to Show Changes Made to the Claims

The following are marked up versions of amended Claims 1 and 15:

1. (AMENDED) An information processing device ~~(100; 200; 300)~~ comprising a user-interface ~~(102)~~ for enabling a user to interact with the device, the user-interface comprising:

- ~~an~~ a navigating input ~~(106)~~ for enabling the user to navigate in a set of options;
- a feedback output ~~(110)~~ to provide respective auditory feedback information to the user about a respective selectable one of the options while the user is navigating, the feedback output providing a first type of auditory feedback when the user is navigating at a first speed and a second type of auditory feedback when the user is navigating at a second different speed;
- a validating input ~~(112)~~ to enable the user to select the current option based on the feedback.

15. (AMENDED) A method of enabling a user to interact with an information processing device ~~(100; 200; 300)~~, the method comprising:

- enabling the user to navigate ~~(402-408)~~ among a set of options;
- providing respective auditory feedback information ~~(410)~~ to the user about a respective selectable one of the options while the user is navigating and providing a first type of auditory feedback information when the user

is navigating at a first speed and providing a second type of auditory feedback information when the user is navigating at a second different speed; and

- enabling the user to validate ~~(412)~~ a current one of the options based on the feedback for accessing the selectable one of the options.